

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUL 13 2006

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/677,216
Response filed July 13, 2006
Reply to OA dated April 14, 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 - 24 (Canceled)

Claim 25 (New): An information retrieving device, comprising:

a memory section for storing a plurality of retrieval item information, each of the plurality of retrieval item information being defined with upper retrieval item information and/or lower retrieval item information to be hierarchically arranged, and a retrieval mode information that is associated with respective upper retrieval item information, the retrieval mode information representing a retrieval mode of immediate lower retrieval item information that belongs to a hierarchy immediately below the respective upper retrieval item information;

an information selecting section for selecting one of the plurality of retrieval item information;

an information acquiring section for acquiring the retrieval mode information that is associated with the selected retrieval item information; and

a display controller for displaying the immediately lower retrieval item information in accordance with the retrieval mode information.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/677,216
Response filed July 13, 2006
Reply to OA dated April 14, 2006

Claim 26 (New): The information retrieving device according to claim 25, wherein the retrieval mode information is rewritable.

Claim 27 (New): The information retrieving device according to claim 25, wherein the retrieval mode includes selection among a list of the immediate lower retrieval item information, and input operation of information for uniquely identifying the immediate lower retrieval item information.

Claim 28 (New): The information retrieving device according to claim 25, wherein the retrieving item information is used for retrieving map information.

Claim 29 (New): The information retrieving device according to claim 27, wherein the retrieving item information is used for retrieving map information, and the list includes a unique name of a region contained in the map information.

Claim 30 (New): The information retrieving device according to claim 27, wherein the retrieving item information is used for retrieving map information, and the input operation is for inputting a name of a region or a lot number.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/677,216
Response filed July 13, 2006
Reply to OA dated April 14, 2006

Claim 31 (New): An information retrieving system, comprising:

a server unit; and

a terminal unit connected with the server unit through a network,

the server unit comprising: a memory section for storing a plurality of retrieval item information, each of the plurality of retrieval item information being defined with upper retrieval item information and/or lower retrieval item information to be hierarchically arranged, and a retrieval mode information that is associated with respective upper retrieval item information, the retrieval mode information representing a retrieval mode of immediate lower retrieval item information that belongs to a hierarchy immediately below the respective upper retrieval item information;

an information selecting section for selecting one of the plurality of retrieval item information;

an information acquiring section for acquiring the retrieval mode information that is associated with the selected retrieval item information; and

a display controller for displaying the immediately lower retrieval item information in accordance with the retrieval mode information,

the terminal unit comprising: an input section for transmitting selection information of the retrieval item information to the server unit; and a display for receiving and displaying the retrieval item information.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/677,216
Response filed July 13, 2006
Reply to OA dated April 14, 2006

Claim 32 (New): An information retrieving method, comprising:

storing a plurality of retrieval item information, each of the plurality of retrieval item information being defined with upper retrieval item information and/or lower retrieval item information to be hierarchically arranged, and a retrieval mode information that is associated with respective upper retrieval item information, the retrieval mode information representing a retrieval mode of immediate lower retrieval item information that belongs to a hierarchy immediately below the respective upper retrieval item information;

selecting one of the plurality of retrieval item information;

acquiring the retrieval mode information associated with the selected retrieval item information; and

displaying the immediate lower retrieval item information in accordance with the retrieval mode information.

Claim 33 (New): An information retrieving program for executing the information retrieving method according to claim 32, the program being recorded in a recording medium in a computer-readable manner.

Claim 34 (New): A recording medium that stores an information retrieving program for executing the information retrieving method according to claim 32.